



Tennessee
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Farm Facts



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cooperating with
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Preliminary Census Results Give First Look at Tennessee Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) announced on February 3 the availability of preliminary state and national data from the 2002 Census of Agriculture-the Nation's largest agricultural information-gathering project. "We are pleased to release the first look at farm numbers and demographic data from the 2002 Census of Agriculture," said Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service (TASS) State Statistician Debra Kenerson. "The 2002 Census of Agriculture serves as the most comprehensive source of data describing U.S. agriculture. This census incorporates collection of new data and improved methodologies, which enable us to present the most complete and accurate picture of Tennessee and U.S. agriculture available."

Several new measures were included in the 2002 Census of Agriculture, including information about more than one operator per farm. "For the first time, the census will provide us with measures of the total number of people operating farms and ranches, as well as the number of households sharing in farm income. This underscores the importance of agriculture to both our local communities and their economies," Kenerson said. "Women have long been significant contributors to agriculture, and I am pleased that we are also able to present the first ever comprehensive measure of the number of women involved in day-to-day farming and ranching decisions."

The 2002 Census of Agriculture showed there were 87,460 farms operating in **Tennessee** during 2002, down 4 percent from the 91,536 farms in 1997. Land in farms, at 11.7 million acres, was down 2 percent from 1997, and the average farm size, at 134 acres, was up 3 acres. Demographic data contained in the report released today include gender of operator, residence on or off the farm, days worked off farm, years present on farm, age group categories, race, and number

of persons living in each household. For example, preliminary results for Tennessee show:

- The average age of Tennessee agricultural producers in 2002 was 55.9-years-old, up from 54.8 in 1997.
- Twenty-six percent, or nearly 32,000, of the state's 123,220 agricultural producers were women in 2002; the number of women who were principal operators increased 9 percent from 1997 to just over 9,300.
- Principal operators of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin increased by 48 percent from 1997 to 2002.
- Black principal operators decreased by 12 percent and American Indian principal operators increased by 34 percent from 1997 to 2002.
- Seventy-eight percent of farms had one household sharing in their net income, 16 percent had two households, and 5 percent had three or more households.
- Ninety-five percent of Tennessee agricultural operations are still run by individuals or families and most are still small farms. Seventy-seven percent of operations had less than \$10,000 in sales of agricultural products in 2002.
- Part-time farming continues to be a major part of Tennessee agriculture, as 44 percent of the principal farm operators worked 200 days or more off the farm, a 4 percent decline from 1997.

Final 2002 Census of Agriculture data at the national, state and county levels will be released on June 3, 2004. That report will provide first time facts about organic crop acreage and sales, production contracts, farm computer and Internet use, plus the broader, full range of traditional census data including land use and ownership; acres irrigated; crop acreage and quantities harvested; livestock and poultry inventories; value of products sold; value of production contracts; participation in Federal farm programs; and market value of land and buildings.

Abbreviated Historical Highlights: Tennessee, 2002 and 1997 Census Years

All Farms	2002	1997	1997 ¹	All Farms	2002	1997	1997 ¹
Farm number	87,460	91,536	76,818	Farms by type of organization:			
Land in farms . . . acres	11,698,990	11,986,258	11,122,363	Family or individual	82,684	83,403	69,585
Avg size of farm . . acres	134	131	145	Partnership	4,031	7,031	6,275
				Corporation	465	769	681
Farms by size:				Other.	280	333	277
1 to 9 acres	6,102	7,923	5,919	Total Operators:	123,220	(N/A)	(N/A)
10 to 49 acres	31,762	31,254	24,401	Total Women operators	31,813	(N/A)	(N/A)
50 to 179 acres	34,139	35,829	30,719	Principal operator by days of work off farm ² :			
180 to 499 acres	11,633	12,644	11,924	None	36,739	28,565	25,230
500 to 999 acres	2,489	2,550	2,544	Any	50,721	58,314	47,484
1,000 to 1,999 acres	908	969	945	200 days or more	38,748	44,358	35,678
2,000 acres or more	427	367	366	Principal operator by primary occupation ² :			
Farms by value of sales:				Farming	44,246	30,635	27,680
Less than \$2,500	42,557	36,808	27,201	Other	43,214	60,901	49,138
\$2,500 to \$4,999	12,871	16,847	14,578	Average age of principal operator (years):			
\$5,000 to \$9,999	12,327	15,548	13,751		55.9	54.8	55.4
\$10,000 to \$24,999	10,117	11,975	11,217				
\$25,000 to \$49,999	3,611	4,096	3,987				
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,150	2,277	2,176				
\$100,000 to \$499,999	3,019	3,209	3,138				
\$500,000 or more	808	776	770				

¹ Not adjusted for coverage. ² Data for 1997 does not include imputation for item nonresponse.

Tennessee Cattle: The total number of cattle and calves in the State on January 1, 2004, was **2.21 million**, 3 percent below last year's total of **2.27 million**. This information is based on a recent cattle survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service. Results of the survey showed the following comparisons with January 1, 2003, inventories: **Beef cows** totaled just over 1.10 million, down 3,000 head; **Milk cow** numbers were down 7,000 head to 77,000; **Calves** under 500 pounds were up slightly at 560,000; **Steers and other heifers** weighing 500 pounds and over, at 175,000 head, were down 40,000. Tennessee's 2003 **calf crop** stayed steady at 1.06 million head.

U.S. Cattle: **All cattle and calves** in the United States as of January 1, 2004, totaled 94.9 million head, 1 percent below the 96.1 million on January 1, 2003 and 2 percent below the 96.7 million two years ago. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 41.9 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2003 and down 1 percent from the 42.2 million two years ago.

Cattle and Calves: Number on Farms by Classes, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2003-2004

Class	Tennessee			United States		
	2003	2004	2004/2003	2003	2004	2004/2003
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	2,270	2,210	97	96,100	94,882	99
All Cows That Have Calved	1,190	1,180	99	42,125	41,851	99
Beef	1,106	1,103	100	32,983	32,860	100
Milk	84	77	92	9,142	8,991	98
Heifers, 500 pounds plus	315	285	90	19,628	19,341	99
Beef Replacement	200	185	93	5,624	5,517	98
Milk Replacement	40	35	88	4,114	4,020	98
Other	75	65	87	9,891	9,804	99
Steers, 500 pounds plus	140	110	79	16,554	16,280	98
Bulls, 500 pounds plus	75	75	100	2,248	2,206	98
Calves, under 500 pounds	550	560	102	15,545	15,204	98
Calf Crop ²	1,060	1,060	100	38,224	37,903	99
Cattle on Feed	5	5	100	13,220	13,811	104

¹ Revised. ² Calves born during previous 12 months.

Commercial Apples: Production, Price, and Value, Tennessee, 1998-2003¹

Crop Year	Total Production ²	Utilized Production ³	Marketing Year Average Price ⁴	Value of Production ⁵
	Million Pounds		Cents Per Pound	1,000 Dollars
1998	12.5	9.0	22.2	2,000
1999	9.5	8.0	21.1	1,685
2000	9.5	8.5	24.4	2,076
2001	9.0	6.5	23.5	1,527
2002	6.5	5.4	26.0	1,402
2003	11.0	10.5	24.9	2,613

¹"Commercial" refers to the total production in orchards of 100 or more bearing age trees. ²Total production is the quantity actually harvested plus quantities which were not harvested because of economic or natural reasons. ³Utilized production is the amount sold plus the quantities used at home or held in storage. ⁴Average for all methods of sale. ⁵Value of production is price times utilized production.

Commercial Peaches: Production, Price, and Value, Tennessee, 1998-2003¹

Crop Year	Total Production ²	Utilized Production ³	Marketing Year Average Price ⁴	Value of Production ⁵
	Million Pounds		Cents Per Pound	1,000 Dollars
1998	3.2	3.0	45.0	1,350
1999	3.1	3.0	47.0	1,410
2000	2.5	2.3	54.5	1,254
2001	3.7	3.5	48.4	1,694
2002	4.0	3.7	47.0	1,739
2003	3.5	3.2	51.4	1,645

¹"Commercial" refers to the total production in orchards of 100 or more bearing age trees. ²Total production is the quantity actually harvested plus quantities which were not harvested because of economic or natural reasons. ³Utilized production is the amount sold plus the quantities used at home or held in storage. ⁴Average for all methods of sale. ⁵Value of production is price times utilized production.

Fresh Market Vegetables: Acreage, Yield, Production, and Value, Tennessee 1998-2003

Crop & Year	Acreage		Yield Per Acre	Production	Marketing Year Average Price	Value of Production
	Planted	Harvested				
	Acres		Cwt.	1,000 Cwt.	Dollars/Cwt.	1,000 Dollars
Tomatoes						
1998	3,600	3,400	250	850	38.00	32,300
1999	3,900	3,600	230	828	29.00	24,012
2000	4,200	3,900	290	1,131	31.00	35,061
2001	3,600	3,000	165	495	20.00	9,900
2002	4,200	3,900	340	1,326	33.00	43,758
2003	3,700	3,500	350	1,225	37.00	45,325
Snapbeans						
1998	10,300	8,200	34	279	31.40	8,761
1999	10,000	8,000	38	304	28.80	8,755
2000	10,500	9,200	36	331	26.00	8,606
2001	8,400	7,200	41	295	30.00	8,850
2002	8,800	7,600	31	236	35.00	8,260
2003	9,400	8,500	43	366	29.00	10,614
Squash¹						
2000	1,300	1,200	87	104	29.20	3,033
2001	1,000	900	57	51	20.70	1,058
2002	1,400	1,200	96	115	21.80	2,058
2003	1,200	1,100	72	79	17.60	1,392

¹Estimates began in 2000.

U.S. Prices: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 111, based on 1990-92=100, is 2 points (1.8 percent) below the December Index. The Livestock Products Index is down 5 points (4.5 percent) from December while the All Crops Index is unchanged. Lower prices received for cattle, lettuce, milk, and tomatoes more than offset higher commodity prices for broilers, soybeans, corn, and eggs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cattle, soybeans, corn, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of cotton, grapes, tobacco, and cottonseed. This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (11 percent) from January 2003. Food Commodities Index, at 112, is 3 points (2.6 percent) below last month but 14 points (14 percent) above January 2003.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., December with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		January ¹	December ¹	January ²	January ¹	December ¹	January ²
		2003	2003	2004	2003	2003	2004
Dollars Per Unit							
Winter Wheat	bu.	3.59	3.98	---	3.66	3.63	3.70
Corn	bu.	2.58	2.61	2.75	2.33	2.32	2.46
Cotton Lint ³	lb.	.458	.608	.613	.455	.641	.638
Soybeans	bu.	5.69	7.15	7.50	5.51	7.17	7.82
Tobacco	lb.	1.925	1.965	1.960	2.090	1.975	1.970
All beef cattle	cwt.	57.60	71.40	69.00	73.20	90.50	77.40
Steers/heifers	cwt.	74.00	89.00	85.00	77.80	95.70	81.20
Cows	cwt.	33.00	45.00	45.00	36.90	49.40	45.80
Calves	cwt.	83.00	99.00	99.00	96.80	112.00	105.00

¹ Entire month. ² Based on purchases first half of month.

Statewide Horse Council: The Tennessee Horse Council meets Feb. 21 in the Ed Jones Auditorium at Ellington Agricultural Center in Nashville. The annual membership meeting features a trade show, tack sale and expert information about current issues and common concerns. Registration for the day's activities begins at 8 a.m. in conjunction with a tack sale, which will be conducted until the meeting starts at 9 a.m. Dr. Bill Day, with the Middle Tennessee State University Horse Science Department, will lead a session on foaling issues, and Tennessee Department of Agriculture marketing specialist Margie Baker will share information about opportunities to market equine and equine-related businesses. Other speakers include Tennessee state veterinarian Dr. Ron Wilson, who will discuss the possibility of a new multi-state "equine passport" system to allow greater ease in interstate travel.

For more information about the meeting, the Tennessee Horse Council or its activities, visit the THC Web site at www.tnhorsecouncil.com or call the THC office at (615) 217-3113.

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